

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-04 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

SCI-02 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-04 AGR-05 DRC-01 /056 W

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R 181915Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 916

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

INFO AMCONSUL CALI

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR PINT

SUBJ: NARCOTICS TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE PORT OF TURBO AND
THE USA

REF: MEDELLIN 0259

1. RECENTLY, OSCAR GARAVITO RAMOS, TURBO HARBOR CAPTAIN,
PAID A COURTESY CALL ON THE VICE CONSUL.
2. DURING THE COURTESY CALL, MR. GARAVITO EXPRESSED A REAL
CONCERN ABOUT THE NOTICEABLY LAX NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IN TURBO.
HE INDICATED THAT MANY OF THE COLOMBIAN POLICE OFFICIALS
(DEPARTAMENTO ADMINISTRATIVO DE SEGURIDAD DAS AND THE ADUANA)
RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING AND STEMING THE FLOW OF ILLICIT
DRUGS TO THE UNITED STATES AND IN COLOMBIA WORK IN CLOSE
COORDINATION WITH THE DRUG TRAFFICKERS. IN ADDITION HE SAID
THAT THE CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN
DISHONEST AUTHORITIES AND THE TRAFFICKERS NEUTRALIZES THE
ESSENTIAL ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES OF THE POLICE.

3. THE FOLLOWING BANANA BOATS ARE SAID TO REGULARLY
ENGAGE IN ILLEGAL NARCOTIC SHIPMENTS TO THE USA:

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BOAT	COUNTRY OF REGISTRY
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E.A..	LIBERIA
CUBAHAMA	PANAMA
MONTEGO	ENGLAND
ORO VERDE	ENGLAND

GARAVITO SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE ORO VERDE'S SKIPPER FERNANDO ARANA, A MEXICAN CITIZEN. ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION RECEIVED, THE PREVIOUSLY NAMED BOATS REGULARLY TRAVEL BETWEEN TURBO, MIAMI AND TAMPA DEPOSITING NARCOTICS.

4. GARAVITO'S ULTIMATE ASSESSMENT OF THE DRUG PROBLEM WAS THAT THE NEW HEAD OF DAS IN BOGOTA WOULD INSTITUTE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL CHANGES THAT WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR A MORE SERIOUS APPROACH TO DRUG ENFORCEMENT.

5. COMMENT: THE ABOVE INFORMATION UNDERSCORES THE CAUSE FOR CONCERN OF URABA BANANA PRODUCERS AND EXPORTERS, REPORTED REFTEL. SUBSEQUENT TO GARAVITO'S CONVERSATION WITH THE VICE CONSUL, A NATIONAL POLICE FACT-FINDING TEAM VISITED THE TURBO AREA, ACCOMPANIED BY AN EMBASSY DEA AGENT. COOPER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, DRUG CONTROL, SHIPS, BANANAS, POLICE FORCES
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Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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